

\* **Zebra Mussel Update:** Bob Einreinhofer presented an update, stating that the OLA goals include washing stations at Cooperstown, Springfield, and Canadarago, and the distribution of educational materials.

- A. **Cooperstown:** Ted Peters announced that the Cooperstown Town Board approved the proposal to install the wash station at the town garage. Grant money in the amount of \$8,600 was provided while the Town Board approved \$4600 toward the hire of personnel to man the station and to query boaters at the launch. Cooperstown will work toward a more permanent plan for next season.
- B. **Springfield:** Mary Clarke reported that Springfield continues to work with the OLA to reach a solution. For this season, only residents may launch at the Public Landing. A more comprehensive plan will be developed over the winter.
- C. **Canadarago:** Bob Einreinhofer reported that OLA sent a letter to Park Commissioner Bernadette Castro after it was reported in the Cooperstown Crier that Castro announced her intention to assist in the control of the zebra mussel at Canadarago Lake. The OLA asked Ms. Castro to fund a washing station at the launch at Canadarago and also to assist Cooperstown in their effort.
- D. **Signage:** New signage instructing boaters how to identify the zebra mussel and how to clean boats was developed by the BFS and funded by grant money.
- E. The Susquehanna Bass Association was contacted about boat washing prior to their tournament. All 22 boats were washed at Taylor's Car Wash before launching in Cooperstown.
- F. All sailboats trailered to the Yacht Club were washed with chlorine bleach prior to launching for the race.

**Action Item #1:** Pat and Bob Ackman volunteered to place the new signage at the motels and to inform the marina owners about the washing station.

**Action Item #2:** Bill Elsey volunteered to gather information on the various local fishing associations and to provide them with educational materials on zebra mussels and instructions for washing boats. Boat owners and local marinas will be asked to check for zebra mussels when boats are taken out for the season. BFS stands ready to help with identification. Exotics should be reported ASAP to the Bill Elsey (547-5171) or to BFS at 547-8778.

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bobby Reed reported that OLA has 48 paid memberships (some are family) for a total of 70 members. OLA opened a free checking account with the Central National Bank and deposited \$1,305. The Current balance is \$1,205. Bobby Reed will now be in charge of Membership. Only dues-paying members will be eligible to vote.
- **Action Item #3: People wishing to join OLA should send check (\$25.) to Bobbie Reed, 1 Press Booth Circle, Cooperstown, 13326.**

\* **By-laws Report:** The Bylaws Committee (Sue Baldy, Nancy Einreinhofer, and Bob Kingsley) met and developed the Mission Statement and By-laws.

**Action Item #4:** Nancy Einreinhofer will present the By-laws to the Board of Directors this week. After Board review and approval, the By-laws will be presented to the membership.

\* **Board of Directors Meeting:** The Board of Directors appointed Win McIntyre to act as technical consultant to the Board and appointed Dan Rosen as public relations person and spokesperson in Bob's absence. (Both positions are voluntary.)

- **Land Use Position Paper:** Harry Levine is assisting in the development of the OLA position paper on land useage.
- **Action Item #5:** Plan will be reviewed with the board then presented to the membership.

\* **Buoys:** There is concern among the membership that there are not enough buoys on the lake and that the buoys are not being properly maintained. The OLA will encourage the municipality Boards to provide funds to maintain the buoys.

**Action Item #6:** Bob Einreinhofer and Win McIntyre will assess buoy needs and draft a letter to the Boards of the four municipalities. Mary Clarke's suggestion for an "Adopt a Buoy" program will also be considered.

\* **Police Patrol of Lake - Update:**

A. Sheriff Mundy reported to the OLA through Bob Einreinhofer that this past season Otsego Lake was patrolled for a total of 172 hours. That breaks down to 11 1/2 hours per weekend if the patrol period was Memorial Day to Labor Day. He also reported that there were nine tickets issued and 31 verbal warnings. The Sheriff is in need of additional funding for personnel and maintenance of Sheriff's boats.

B. Dan Rosen reported, in Bryant Kolner's absence, on fees and regulations on Lake George and possible alternative funding sources for law enforcement for Otsego Lake. This possibility will be investigated by the Board of Directors.

**Action Item #7:** Board of Directors will lobby County Board for additional funding for personnel to patrol Otsego Lake.

**Action Item #8:** Board of Directors will research additional funding sources for law enforcement.

\* **OLA Logo:** Steve O'Neill presented the logo he designed for the OLA. Members were enthusiastic and suggestions for its use included t-shirts, baseball caps, dock signs, banners and spray bottles.

**Action Item #9:** Steve will get prices on merchandise.

**Action Item #10:** Bob Einreinhofer will summarize OLA's activities and accomplishments.

**The Next Meeting,** which will be the last of the season, will be at **8AM on 10/12** at the **Middlefield Town Hall**. A special presentation will be given by **Win McIntyre** on the status of septic systems on Otsego Lake and alternative systems. Win is a member of OLA and the Technical Advisor to OLA on the Lake Management Plan.

BFS would like to see another year before the walleye can be legally caught. They are asking the DEC to raise the minimum size to 18" locally. The OLA voted unanimously to support this position. A letter will be sent from **Bob Einreinhofer** to the NYSDEC asking for the change in the minimum angling size. **(Action Item #4)** All members are encouraged to write on behalf of this request. **Send your letters to : Norm McBride, Fisheries Biologist, NYSDEC Region 4 Offices, Stamford, NY 12167.**

\* **Election of Directors:** A slate of nominations for Directors was presented. Each of the Director nominees gave a short presentation outlining their qualifications and interest in serving. The election (paper ballot) followed. Two Directors from each of the four towns were elected.

Cooperstown: **Carl Good and Karin Svahn.**

Middlefield: **Burr Southworth and Doug Willies.**

Otsego: **Paul Lord and Butch Weir.**

Springfield: **Mary Clarke and Dan Rosen.**

Bob Einreinhofer will call a meeting of the Directors before the next association meeting. **(Action Item #5)**

\*By-laws Committee: **Sue Baldy, Amy Donnelly, Nancy Einreinhofer, and Bob Kingsley** volunteered to serve on a By-laws Committee. They will meet **(Action Item #6, Nancy Einreinhofer)** and prepare a first draft to be circulated at the next meeting.

\* Roberta "Bobby" Reed volunteered to serve as Treasurer. **Dues are set at \$25.** per family per year. Please make check payable to the Otsego Lake Association and mail to Bobby at One Press Booth Circle, Cooperstown, NY 13326. Bobby's phone # is 547-9773; email: [reed@catskill.net](mailto:reed@catskill.net)

\* **Next Meeting: Saturday, September 7, 8 AM, Springfield Community Center.** The membership agreed to host the Watershed Council presentation by Win McIntyre on septic systems around the lake.

Submitted by Nancy Einreinhofer, August 13, 2002